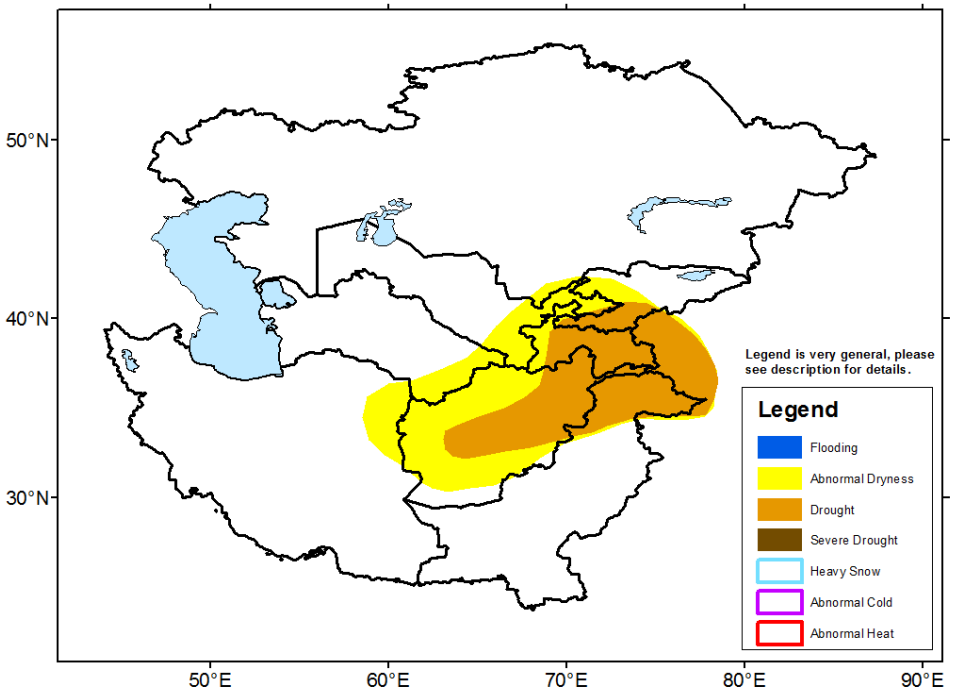
Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook
February 22 - 28, 2018

Temperatures:

From February 12-18, surface temperatures averaged below normal over the western two-thirds of Kazakhstan, but continued to remain above normal farther south across the central and southern portions of Central Asia. Temperatures ranged between 2-8 degrees Celsius above normal over eastern Tajikistan and much of Afghanistan. During the next week, similar temperature patterns, with slightly below normal temperatures over north-central Kazakhstan and above normal temperatures over southern Turkmenistan and Afghanistan are expected, based on the GFS model forecasts. Maximum temperature could exceed 25 degrees Celsius over the low-lying areas of Afghanistan.



Precipitation

During the past week, widespread light to moderate precipitation fell over northern Turkmenistan, southern Uzbekistan, southern Kazakhstan, western Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and eastern Afghanistan. Although this past week's enhanced precipitation might have provided relief to the ongoing dryness over some localized areas, large (> 50 mm liquid equivalent) ninety-day precipitation deficits and extremely low snow water equivalent persisted over many basins of Afghanistan and adjacent countries. During the next outlook period, widespread moderate to locally heavy precipitation, likely in the form of rain and snow mix, is forecast throughout Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Kyrgyzstan, which could help to partially alleviate ongoing drought over the region.

Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.